

**Patent claims**

1. A lining element (1) for the interior of a vehicle, in particular a motor vehicle, having a base part (2) which, on its surface side facing the interior (4) of the vehicle and suitable for emitting light, is provided with a translucent covering layer (3), characterized in that the covering layer (3) is designed to be elastically compressible.
2. The lining element as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the covering layer (3) is designed to be translucent.
3. The lining element as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the translucent covering layer (3) has an optical transmissivity in the visible spectral range of 1 to 25%, in particular 5 to 10%.
4. The lining element as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the base part (2) is designed as a plate-like optical conductor (10), which is operationally associated with a light generator (7).
5. The lining element as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the optical conductor (10) consists of a transparent plastic, in particular PMMA or PC, and has a structure by means of which an output of light can be brought about on the surface side of the optical conductor facing the interior.
6. The lining element as claimed in one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the base part (2) is formed directly as a light generator (7).

7. The lining element as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the base part (2) comprises an electroluminescent film (18), OLED or polyLED.
- 5 8. The lining element as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the translucent covering layer (3) consists of an elastomer, in particular EPDM, silicone or polyurethane.
- 10 9. The lining element as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the elastomer has a foamed structure, at least partially.
- 15 10. The lining element as claimed in claim 8 or 9, characterized in that the elastomer has a hardness of 20 to 70 Shore A, in particular about 40 Shore A.
- 20 11. The lining element as claimed in one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the covering layer (3) comprises a layer of a gel-like substance (21) covered toward the interior (4) of the vehicle by means of a plastic film (19).
- 25 12. The lining element as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the gel-like substance (21) has a dynamic viscosity of 0.01 to 10 Pa·s, in particular 0.1 to 1 Pa·s.
- 30 13. The lining element as claimed in claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the gel-like substance is arranged between two plastic films (19), (20).
- 35 14. The lining element as claimed in one of claims 11 to 13, characterized in that at least the plastic film (19) on the side of the interior has a thickness of 0.1 to 1.5 mm, in particular 0.5 to 1.0 mm.

15. The lining element as claimed in one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the covering element (3) has a thickness overall of 1.0 to 5.0 mm, in particular 2.0 to 3.0 mm.